

MINI BITS
Newsletter April 2006
The Hearts & Hooves - Sacramento

“There is something about the outside of a horse
that is good for the inside of a man.”
Winston Churchill

Correction - regarding last month's announcement of a new webmaster. The name of the volunteer is Spencer Takata...A BIG THANK YOU TO SPENCER and our apologies for the error. Check it out at www.heartsandhooves-sacramento.org.

Thank You - A very special thanks to Mike Sides of Sides & Ferkovich, a CPA firm, for donating their valuable services to Hearts & Hooves for 2006.

APRIL - What an incredible month we had at Hearts & Hooves. In addition to our regular visits, we had our first visit at a brand new facility and had two major special events.

KIWANIS FAMILY HOUSE - The Kiwanis House serves the families of children at UC Davis Children's Hospital. These families are far from home and under tremendous stress, so our visits are a welcome relief. The Citrus Heights Kiwanis club has donated \$600 to sponsor this facility. We started April 22 and will continue a regular visit schedule on the fourth Saturday of each month

CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS ANNUAL EGG HUNT - April 15th This is one of the few events in the year that the general public can interact with our horses. We had 6 horses and 12 volunteers. There were approximately 1,000 happy kids at Rusch Park for the egg hunt and other activities including meeting our minis. All the volunteers did a great job and helped make a fun day even more special for the children.

GRAND NATIONAL RODEO - San Francisco. Elle, from Landpark Academy (a school for Autistic children) was our special needs child honored at the matinee performance. Elle was a huge hit with the crowd when she rode a gentle performing Brahma Bull "Doc Holiday".

Our second child, Ian, was also from Landpark Academy and said he had "the best day of my life". Ian led our mini, Buddy, with a tall Texan cowboy named J.W. and Miss Grand National. The rest of us followed close behind with Special, Angel, Magic for the finals crowd in the Cow Palace. Special thanks to Bonnie and her husband Richard who participated in both events and Kyle Chiodo who went also and helped me unload the minis at 1:00 am at the ranch.

The Stable

We have a couple additions to the horse transport van. We purchased a roof rack to carry the portable corral. We also received a donation of a canvas cargo pack that straps to the existing rail for carrying hay and other supplies that won't fit inside. These are needed for those events which require us to stay several hours or even all day. If anyone would like to sponsor the roof rack, it cost \$350.

I will be travelling regularly this summer, so stable helpers are needed. If you can only commit on certain days of the week, that's fine...every little bit helps. I conduct stable training any morning, when I do the daily chores. Just pick a day that's convenient for you and call me at 916-991-7040.

Fun Stuff

1. Check the latest H&H May calendar for these family events. Volunteers are needed, so when you signup, bring family & friends:

- a. POW WOW parade & fair in Orangevale on 20 May Sat.
- b. Dixon English Car Show 21 May Sun
- c. Sacramento Jazz Festival 26-29 May (Memorial w/e Fri-Mon)

2. Also, mark 10 Sep 3-7 pm Sunday...it's our annual fund raiser at the SHA clubhouse (near Watt @ Hwy 80). You can't find a better family outing...there will be entertainment for all ages. We are lucky to have the same caterer (Greg Cornell of Silver Sage Catering 916-655-1675), which everyone raved about last year.

If you have something to donate for the auction/raffle/doorprizes or you want to help in other ways, call the committees:

Media Relations: Ellen 967-8167

Horses: Lucy 991-7040

Decorations: Diane 488-9028

Setup/Take Down: TBD

Auction, Press Packets & Ticket Sales: Maureen 722-6158

Please sign up for these special events, they are great fun, a different experience from our regular visits and contribute alot to our communities.